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HHS Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs

News Bulletin: Friday, February 15th, 2013

Visit HealthCare.Gov and CuidadodeSalud.Gov, two consumer-focused health care websites to: [find insurance options](#), [learn about prevention](#), [compare care quality](#), and [learn about the law](#). How is the Affordable Care Act helping you? Share your story [here](#).

Secretary's Corner

* February 15, 2013

Secretary Kathleen Sebelius announced 27 recipients of new Strong Start for Mothers and Newborns awards, "Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, we are helping communities across the country improve prenatal care for expectant mothers so that they can have a healthy delivery and a healthy baby," said HHS Secretary Kathleen Sebelius. "The Strong Start initiative will help find ways to reduce the rate of preterm births, which is a public health problem with significant long-term consequences for families and children." View the full release [here](#).

* February 11, 2013

Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Kathleen Sebelius and Attorney General Eric Holder today released a new report showing that for every dollar spent on health care-related fraud and abuse investigations in the last three years, the government recovered \$7.90. This is the highest three-year average return on investment in the 16-year history of the Health Care Fraud and Abuse (HCFAC) Program. View the full release [here](#).

Affordable Care Act News

* February 15, 2013

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) released the Marketplace Establishment Grant Awards (CT, NH, UT, VA states for a total of \$8 million). This funding will help States build their Affordable Insurance Marketplaces. View the award summaries [here](#).

* February 15, 2013

Beneficiaries will get greater protections, value, and care in the Medicare services they receive through proposed policies released by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). The 2014 Advance Notice and draft Call Letter takes important steps to improve payment accuracy for Medicare Advantage (Part C) and in Medicare prescription drug (Part D) plans for 2014, without shifting costs to beneficiaries. Since the Affordable Care Act was passed in 2010, Medicare Advantage premiums have fallen by 10 percent and enrollment is expected to increase by an estimated 28 percent through this year. In addition, costs of the defined standard Part D plan will be lower in 2014 than they are in 2013. The standard Part D deductible will be \$310, down from \$325 in 2013, and cost-sharing amounts will also be lower. View the full release [here](#).

* February 15, 2013

Beginning February 16, 2013, the federally-run Pre-Existing Condition Insurance Plan (PCIP) is suspending acceptance of new enrollment applications until further notice. State-based PCIPs may continue accepting enrollment applications through March 2, and will then suspend acceptance of new enrollment applications until further notice. PCIP will continue providing coverage to more than 100,000 people currently enrolled nationwide. View more information [here](#).

Funding Opportunities

* February 15, 2013

The Office of Adolescent Health (OAH) announces the availability of Fiscal Year 2013 (FY13) funds for competitively awarded grants for the development and implementation of programs for expectant and parenting teens, women, fathers, and their families. The Pregnancy Assistance Fund (PAF) grant programs are designed to strengthen access to and completion of secondary and postsecondary education, improve health

outcomes for mothers and children, improve pregnancy planning and spacing, and reduce the likelihood of repeat teen pregnancies. View the FOA [here](#).

Healthcare.gov Blog

✱ **February 14, 2013**

Dr. Howard K. Koh posted a blog announcing the HealthMap Vaccine Finder “When we talk about vaccines, most people think of “flu” or “childhood immunizations.” But there are actually a number of vaccines available to protect adults from serious infectious diseases and their long-term consequences. Adult vaccines can prevent diseases such as shingles, pneumonia and whooping cough. The HPV vaccine can prevent cervical cancer. And the hepatitis B vaccine also prevents the liver cancer that can develop as a result of chronic hepatitis B infection.” View full post [here](#).

Brochures & Educational Materials

Below you'll find brochures and materials related to the implementation of the Affordable Care Act. For other brochures and resources visit: <http://www.healthcare.gov/news/brochures/index.html>.

✱ [ACA Educational PowerPoints](#)

The Top Five Things You Need to Know

- ✱ Families with Children (PDF – [English 7.27 MB](#), [Spanish 1.23 MB](#))
- ✱ Health Care Providers (PDF – [English 2.71 MB](#), [Spanish 517 KB](#))
- ✱ People with Disabilities (PDF – [English 2.56 MB](#), [Spanish 930 KB](#))
- ✱ Seniors (PDF – [English 11.3 MB](#), [Spanish 1.54 MB](#))
- ✱ Small Business Owners (PDF – [English 4.22 MB](#), [Spanish 646 KB](#))
- ✱ Young Adults (PDF – [English 6.56 MB](#), [Spanish 919 KB](#))

Information for Consumers and Small Businesses

- ✱ [The Health Care Law & You](#) (PDF – 8.99 MB)
- ✱ [Information for Small Businesses](#) (PDF – 763 KB)

MyCare: Videos and Stories

Find videos and stories related to how the Affordable Care Act has helped individuals across the country. <http://www.healthcare.gov/mycare/stories.html>

The Affordable Care Act at Two Years

- ✱ [The Affordable Care Act and Women](#)
- ✱ [The Affordable Care Act Gives American Families Greater Control Over Their Own Health Care](#)
- ✱ [The Affordable care Act Gives Parents Greater Control Over Their Children's Health Care](#)
- ✱ [The Affordable Care Act Helps Young Adults](#)
- ✱ [The Affordable Care Act Helps Seniors](#)

- ✳ [The Affordable Care Act Helps African Americans](#)
- ✳ [The Affordable Care Act Helps Latinos](#)
- ✳ [The Affordable Care Act Helps Rural America](#)
- ✳ [The Affordable Care Act Helps Women](#)
- ✳ [The Affordable Care Act Helps Small Businesses](#)
- ✳ [The Affordable Care Act Helps Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders](#)
- ✳ [The Affordable Care Act Helps American Indians and Alaska Natives](#)
- ✳ [The Affordable Care Act Helps Americans with Disabilities](#)
- ✳ [The Affordable Care Act Helps LGBT Americans](#)
- ✳ [Health Reform for American Veterans and Military Personnel](#)

State by State Fact Sheets

Choose your state to learn more about the immediate benefits of the Affordable Care Act.

- ✳ [State By State Fact Sheets](#)
- ✳ [Learn the facts and statistics about how the Affordable Care Act will benefit each state.](#)

Regulations and Guidance

Regulations and guidance are used to implement many of the Affordable Care Act provisions that address both private and public health insurance.

- ✳ [Standards Related to Reinsurance, Risk Corridors and Risk Adjustment](#)
- ✳ [Eligibility Changes under Affordable Care Act](#)
- ✳ [Certain Preventive Services under Affordable Care Act](#)
- ✳ [Student Health Insurance Coverage](#)

Grants

The Affordable Care Act creates a number of new grant opportunities. Below, you will find links to the grant centers for the agencies administering these grants. There, and at [Grants.gov](#), you can search for relevant grant opportunities.

- ✳ [CDC National Public Health Improvement Initiative \(NPHII\) Grants](#)
- ✳ [Center for Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight Grants](#)
- ✳ [Administration for Children and Families Grants](#)
- ✳ [Administration on Aging Grants](#)
- ✳ [Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality](#)
- ✳ [Health Resources and Services Administration Grants](#)

✧ [Indian Health Service Grants](#)

✧ [National Institutes of Health Grants](#)

✧ [Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration Grants](#)

Special Programs

Several new programs across the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services support the work of the Affordable Care Act. You will find information about these programs on this page.

✧ [Partnership for Patients: Better Care, Lower Costs](#)

Councils & Groups

The Affordable Care Act establishes a number of councils and groups to carry out provisions in the law. To learn more about the organizations, click on a link below:

✧ [Center for Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight \(CCIIO\)](#)

✧ [Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation](#)

✧ [Interagency Working Group on Health Care Quality](#)

✧ [National Prevention, Health Promotion and Public Health Council](#)